



11 September 1985

NOTE FOR:

Executive Secretary

FROM:

Chief, Political Instability Branch, OGI

Dick Kerr asked me last night to pull together a quick list of alternative analyses or unconventional papers prepared by the DI and the NIC over the past year or so in support of a presentation the DCI plans to make to PFIAB. Here goes:

Scenarios of Dramatic Political Change

This series of papers was requested by the DCI and seeks to identify the individuals and groups that might be able to seize power and the circumstances that could impel or impede such attempts. The Political Instability branch has produced a dozen of these studies over the past year and a half (see attached map); [redacted] how are in the review process.

New Art Form for Intelligence Memoranda

This series was initiated at the DCI's request in early 1985. The papers are intended to provide the policymaker with a structured way of thinking about the costs and opportunities associated with pursuing various policy options. I drafted prototype papers [redacted] and a sensitive undissemated typescript memoranda, [redacted] Impact of Alternative US Strategies" was produced by a Special Working Group [redacted] that I chaired.

Interagency Vulnerability Assessments

This very sensitive series of papers assesses the vulnerability of selected countries to external military, economic, and/or political pressure. The NIC published four papers in this series in 1983 [redacted] three in 1984 [redacted] Dissemination was very limited and Intelligence Community participation was restricted.

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Prospects for a Military Coup

These papers apply an indicators approach in exploring whether and under what circumstances a military coup might occur in a given country. No paper in this series has been published to date, but Political Instability branch members now are in the process of coordinating drafts on [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The methodology has appeared in an annex to an ALA Intelligence Assessment on military/political dynamics in [REDACTED] and it is being applied to the situations in the [REDACTED]

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Ad hoc Unconventional DI Publications

Several DI offices have produced sensitive typescript memoranda that build on some of the techniques or art forms noted above. Of note are the special study done by the [REDACTED] Force chaired by [REDACTED] "Looking at Structural Change"; and two recent typescripts: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Prospects for Rapid and Radical Change-The Downside Risk" and "Thinking the Unthinkable [REDACTED] Is Sudden Collapse Possible"?

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If you want more background on any of these series of papers, please give me a call on [REDACTED]

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